

T-962
Parsons-Newnam House
Oxford
Private

c. 1880

The two-story, three-bay hip roofed house that stands at 210 North Morris Street is a well preserved late nineteenth-century dwelling erected around 1880 for . P. Parsons. He purchased the lot from Philemon and Mary Willis in February 1880 and financed construction shortly thereafter. The property passed to his heirs, Sallie E. Parsons and Ethel A. Parsons. In 1902 Sallie E. Parsons transferred ownership of the house and lot to Howard W. Newnam for \$1500. The property has remained in Newnam family ownership to the present time.

Distinguished for its intact condition, the late nineteenth century side hall/double pile dwelling is embellished with subtle Victorian exterior and interior trim. One of the most dynamic architectural elements is the walnut newel post and molded handrail. Common to the period is the scroll decorated stringer. Also typical of the late nineteenth century are the bulls-eye block surrounds that frame the interior door openings. Enlarging the south parlor or dining room on the first floor and a bedroom on the second floor is a two-story bay window that extends from the south side of the main house.

MARYLAND HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN INFORMATION

RESOURCE NAME: Parsons-Newnam House

MHT INVENTORY NUMBER: T-962

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PLAN DATA

1. Historic Period Theme(s): Architecture
2. Geographic Orientation: Eastern Shore
3. Chronological/Development Period(s): Industrial-Urban Dominance
1870-1930
4. Resource Type(s): Single-family dwelling

**Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form**

**MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES**

Survey No. 962

Magi No.

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Parsons-Newnam House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 210 North Morris Street not for publication

city, town Oxford vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Talbot

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<u>district</u>	<u>public</u>	<u>X</u> occupied	<u>agriculture</u> <u>museum</u>
<u>X</u> building(s)	<u>X</u> private	<u>unoccupied</u>	<u>commercial</u> <u>park</u>
<u>structure</u>	<u>both</u>	<u>work in progress</u>	<u>educational</u> <u>X</u> private residence
<u>site</u>	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<u>entertainment</u> <u>religious</u>
<u>object</u>	<u>in process</u>	<u>X</u> yes: restricted	<u>government</u> <u>scientific</u>
	<u>being considered</u>	<u>yes: unrestricted</u>	<u>industrial</u> <u>transportation</u>
	<u>X</u> not applicable	<u>no</u>	<u>military</u> <u>other:</u>

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Nancy Newnam Newton

street & number 408 Yale Avenue telephone no.:

city, town Swarthmore state and zip code Pa 19801

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Talbot County Clerk of Court Map 400, p. 564
liber 517

street & number Talbot County Courthouse folio 565

city, town Easton state MD 21601

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date _____ _____ federal _____ state _____ county _____ local

depository for survey records

city, town _____ state _____

7. Description

Survey No. T-962

Condition

☒ excellent
☐ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved

date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Parsons-Newnam house is located at 210 North Morris Street in the center of Oxford, Talbot County, Maryland. The two-story, three-bay side hall/double-pile frame house faces west with a shallow pitched hip roof oriented on an east/west axis.

Dating around 1880, the two-story, three-bay by two-bay frame house is supported on a low brick foundation, and the exterior is uniformly clad with vinyl siding over weatherboards. The shallow pitched hip roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Extending to the rear is a two-story dining room and kitchen wing that was built in at three stages according to the current owner.

The west (main) facade is a slightly uneven three-bay elevation with a side entrance and flanking two-over-two sash windows. A Victorian four-panel front door is framed by a four-light transom and three-light sidelights that have decorative panel below. The adjacent windows are flanked by louvered shutters. Stretching across the first floor is a hip roof porch supported on chamfered posts. The fascia board of the porch cornice is enriched with a decorative edge molding. Lighting the second floor are three unevenly spaced two-over-two sash windows flanked by louvered shutters. A boxed cornice finishes the perimeter of the roof. Piercing the center of the roof are brick chimneys.

The south side of the house is a two-bay elevation with a two-story bay window marking the east bay. The bay windows is pierced by two-over-two sash windows in front and single-pane sash windows to each sloped side. A mid-level cornice is decorated with brackets and rectangular panels fill the space above the first floor window and between the brackets. Decorative brackets also distinguish the top of the bay window at the second story level. The adjacent west bay is filled with two-over-two sash windows on each floor.

Marking the north side of the main block are pairs of two-over-two sash windows on each floor, and the openings are flanked by louvered shutters.

The east (rear) elevation of the main block is largely covered by the two-story service wing that has been extended with shed additions to the east and south. The north side is marked by an asymmetrical fenestration including two-over-two sash windows.

The interior has been restored over the past thirty years and most of the original late nineteenth century woodwork remains intact. The side entrance hall is distinguished by a turned walnut newel post and a molded handrail supported by turned balusters. The stringer is enriched with a scroll decoration typical of the late nineteenth century. The inner hall partition is pierced by two door openings that open into the parlor and dining room. Bulls-eye block surrounds frame four-panel doors. The bulls-eye block has a stylized floral design on the first floor, in contrast to a more plain design on the second floor. The adjacent parlors retain Victorian mantels and each firebox is fitted with an iron coal stove. Bulls-eye block surrounds frame the doorways and ogee molded baseboard trims the perimeter of the rooms.

(Continued)

8. Significance

Survey No. T-962

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The two-story, three-bay hip roofed house that stands at 210 North Morris Street is a well preserved late nineteenth-century dwelling erected around 1880 for . P. Parsons. He purchased the lot from Philemon and Mary Willis in February 1880¹ and financed construction shortly thereafter. The property passed to his heirs, Sallie E. Parsons and Ethel A. Parsons. In 1902 Sallie E. Parsons transferred ownership of the house and lot to Howard W. Newnam for \$1500.² The property has remained in Newnam family ownership to the present time.

Distinguished for its intact condition, the late nineteenth century side hall/double pile dwelling is embellished with subtle Victorian exterior and interior trim. One of the most dynamic architectural elements is the walnut newel post and molded handrail. Common to the period is the scroll decorated stringer. Also typical of the late nineteenth century are the bulls-eye block surrounds that frame the interior door openings. Enlarging the south parlor or dining room on the first floor and a bedroom on the second floor is a two-story bay window that extends from the south side of the main house.

¹ Talbot County Land Record, Lease 89/286, 18 February 1880.

² Talbot County Land Record, Lease 139/381, 7 October 1902.

Survey No. T-962

Quadrangle scale _____

H | | | | | | | |

7.1 DESCRIPTION

Parsons-Newnam House, T-962
210 North Morris Street
Oxford, Talbot County, Maryland

The second floor is divided into three bedrooms that open off the upstairs hall. Four-panel doors are framed by bulls-eye block surrounds. The back portion of the upstairs hall has been reworked to include a separate bathroom and hall to the rear wing. A bulls-eye block surround frames a four-panel door that opens into the bathroom. The rear wing is finished in a very plain manner. A narrow staircase rises between the current dining room and kitchen to provide separate access to the two bedrooms in the back of the house. A shift to narrower flooring in the back room indicates that the two sections rooms were built at slightly different times. The room closest to the main block dates from the same period as the main block whereas the back room was probably added within ten to twenty years of initial construction.

T-962
Parsons-Newnam House
210 North Morris Street
Oxford, Talbot County, Maryland
Chain of title

Map 400, Parcel 564

517/565 Catherine E. Newnam

to

10/28/1977 Nancy Newnam Newton

406/224 Howard W. Newnam
Ida M. Newnam

to

10/16/1965 Howard W. Newnam, Jr.
Catherine E. Newnam
Being a portion of Lot No. 53 on Helmsley's plot of Oxford

167/427 M. Tilghman Johnston

to

4/24/1914 Howard W. Newnam
Ida M. Newnam

167/426 Howard W. Newnam
Ida M. Newnam

to

4/24/1914 M. Tilghman Johnston

T-962
Parsons-Newnam House
210 North Morris Street
Oxford, Talbot County, Maryland
Chain of title continued

Lease
139/381 Sallie E. Parsons, Guardian of Ethel A. Parsons

to

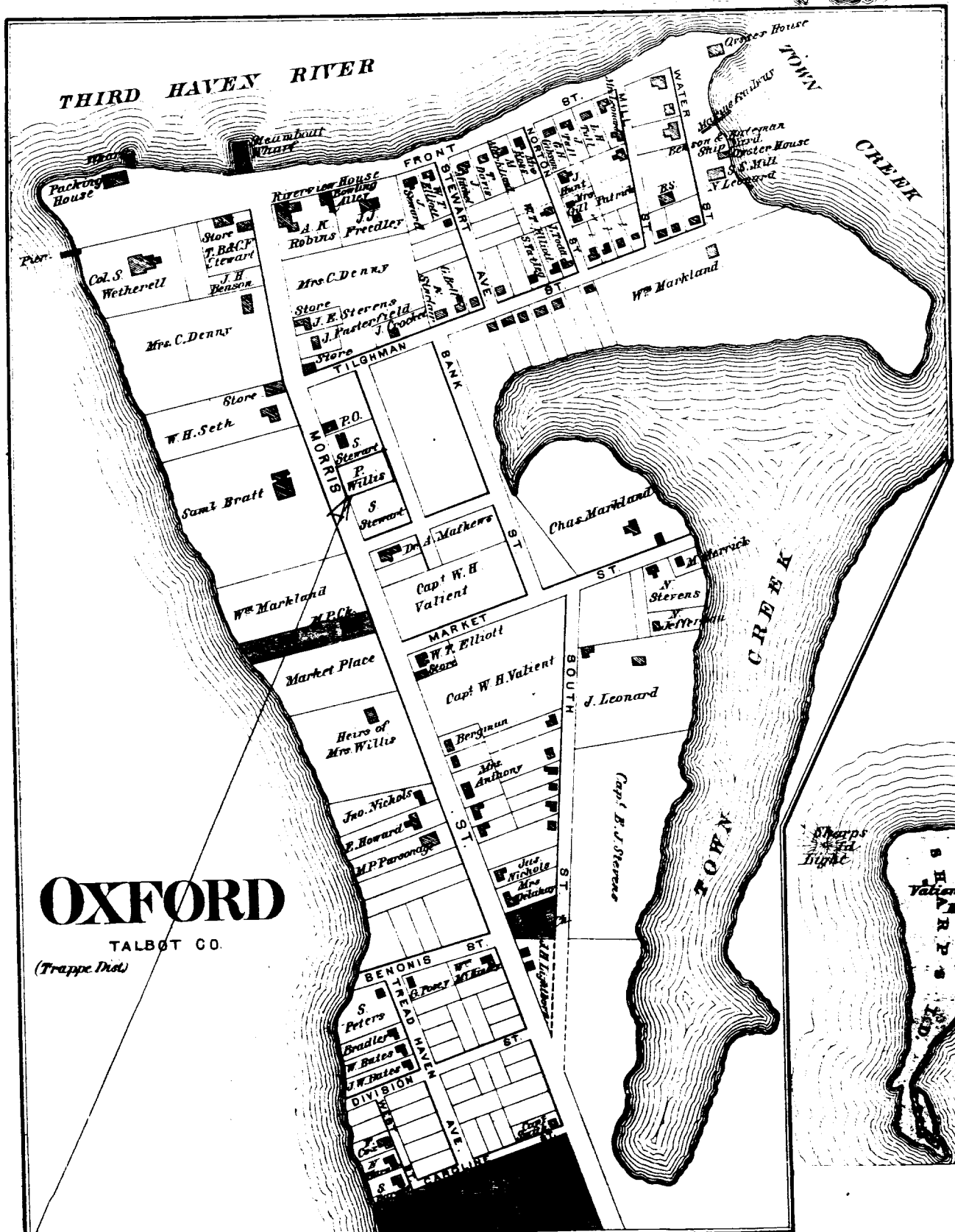
10/7/1902 Howard W. Newnam

\$1500.00 and which said leasehold by distribution of the
personal estate of W. P. Parsons, in the Orphan's
Court for Talbot County became vested in Sallie
E. Parsons and Ethel A. Parsons as personal
representatives of said W. P. Parsons

Lease
89/286 Philemon Willis
Mary A. Willis

to

2/18/1880 W. P. Parsons



OXFORD

TALBOT CO.

(Trappe Dist)

T-962
Parsons-Newnam House
210 North Morris Street

Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson Atlas
1877

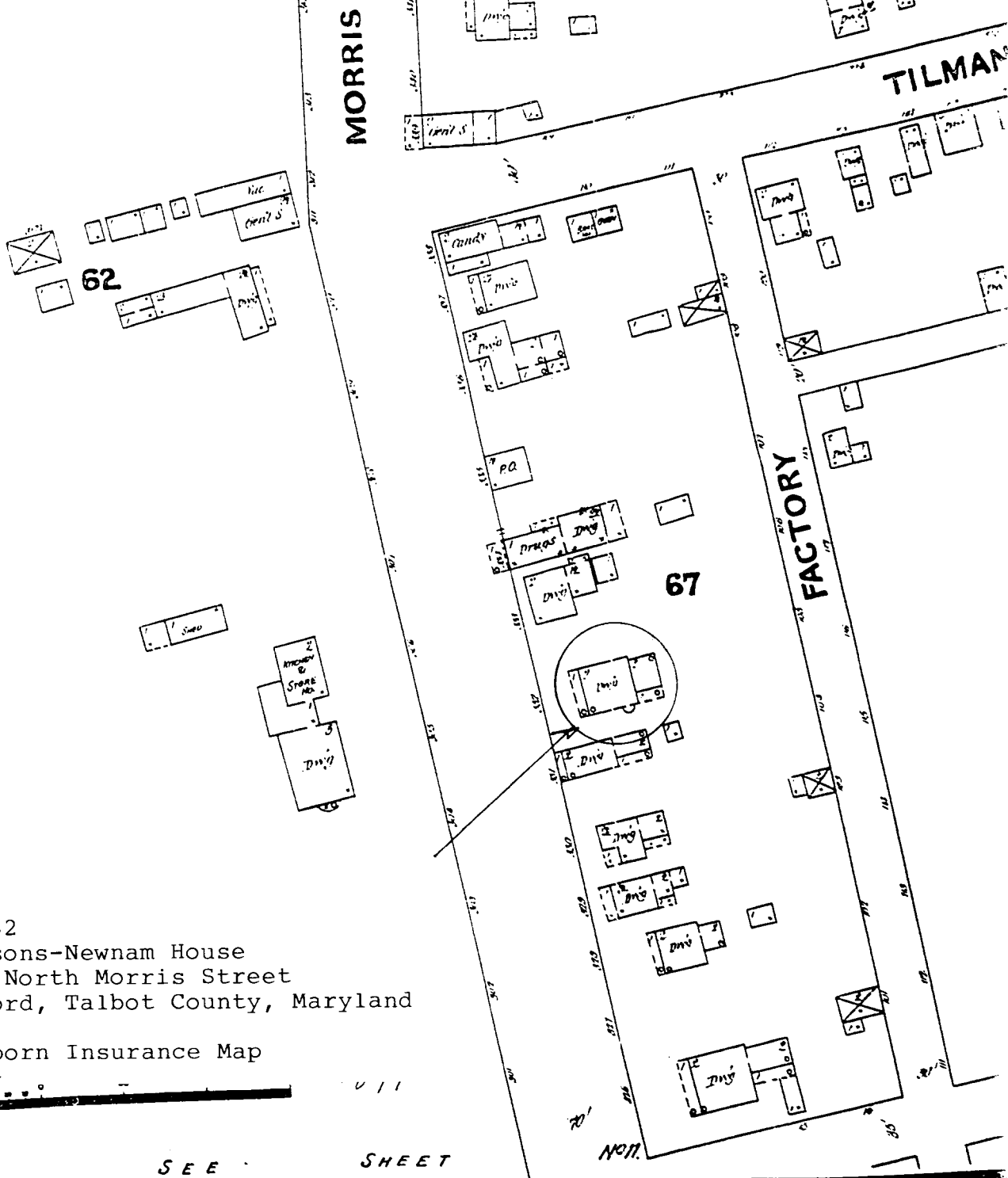
T-962
Parsons-Newnam House
210 North Morris Street
Oxford, Talbot County, Maryland

Sanborn Insurance Map
1891



SEE

SHEET





T-962
Parsons-Newnam House
Oxford, Maryland Quadrangle
1942

Benon
Point



T-962

PARSONS - Newnam Phase

Outcrop, Talbot Co., MD.

Northwest elevation

6/98, Paul Toland, ~~photomicrograph~~

Met./and. ~~thickened~~ = Thin

1 of 3



T-962

PASADENA - Newman House

Orlando, Talbot Co, MD.

West side of road at road

5/99, Paul Thomas, Pittsburgh

Near / MD 160 near Trust

2 of 3



T-962

Parsons - Newman House

Oxford, Talbot Co., MD.

South elevation

5/90, Paul Toward, photographer

NEG / MD Historical Photos

3 x 3